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To:
          'agoldsmith@cleanwater.org'['agoldsmith@cleanwater.org'];
'Alyson.e.beha@hud.gov'['Alyson.e.beha@hud.gov'];
'andersonka@ci.newark.nj.us'['andersonka@ci.newark.nj.us']; Carpenter,
Angela[Carpenter.Angela@epa.gov]; 'Angie.armand@dca.nj.gov'['Angie.armand@dca.nj.gov']; Anne
Heyton[Anne.Hayton@dep.nj.gov]; 'Anne.Hayton@dep.nj.gov'['Anne.Hayton@dep.nj.gov'];
'April.bennett@nih.gov'['April.bennett@nih.gov']; 'Ash.christine@epa.gov'['Ash.christine@epa.gov'];
aslagle@pvsc.nj.gov[aslagle@pvsc.nj.gov]; 'aslagle@pvsc.nj.gov'['aslagle@pvsc.nj.gov']; Balla,
Richard[Balla.Richard@epa.gov]; 'baptista@newschool.edu'['baptista@newschool.edu']; Benjamin Delisle -
Jersey City Redevelopment agency[delisle@jcnj.org];
'bkauffman@newarkrbp.org'['bkauffman@newarkrbp.org'];
'BMcKenna@pvsc.nj.gov'['BMcKenna@pvsc.nj.gov'];
'Butler.elizabeth@epa.gov'['Butler.elizabeth@epa.gov'];
'Carl.alderson@noaa.gov'['Carl.alderson@noaa.gov'];
'Carrie.sargeant@dep.nj.gov'['Carrie.sargeant@dep.nj.gov'];
'ccolley@newarkcedc.org'['ccolley@newarkcedc.org']; Cephas Ward[Ward@domain.invalid];
CephasV[cephas.v.ward@hud.gov]; Clay Stern[Clay_stern@fws.gov];
'csturm@njfuture.org'['csturm@njfuture.org']; 'Damon@damonrich.net'['Damon@damonrich.net']; Danielle
Tommaso[Tommaso@domain.invalid]; DanielleMNAN[Danielle.M.Tommaso@usace.army.mil]; David
Antonio - County of Essex - Department of Public Works
(dantonio@essexcountynj.org)[dantonio@essexcountynj.org]; David Bean[Bean@domain.invalid];
David[David.Bean@dep.nj.gov]; David Yennior (dyennior@gmail.com)[dyennior@gmail.com];
'debbie@nynjbaykeeper.org'['debbie@nynjbaykeeper.org']; 'doug@forumfg.com'['doug@forumfg.com'];
'elizabethnj@groundworkusa.org'['elizabethnj@groundworkusa.org'];
'Elkins.green@dot.state.nj.us'['Elkins.green@dot.state.nj.us'];
'esvendsen@fs.fed.us'['esvendsen@fs.fed.us'];
'Florence.W.Mak@usace.army.mil'['Florence.W.Mak@usace.army.mil']; Gina
Behnfeldt[gina.behnfeldt@tetratech.com]; 'gwright@NewarkHA.org'['gwright@NewarkHA.org']; Harvey
Morginstin[harvey.morginstin@gmail.com];
hugh@hackensackriverkeeper.org[hugh@hackensackriverkeeper.org];
'info@bayonnenatureclub.org'['info@bayonnenatureclub.org']; Jason Shea[Shea@domain.invalid];
JasonANAN02[Jason.A.Shea@usace.army.mil]; Jay Meegoda[meegoda@njit.edu];
'Jay.Nickerson@dep.nj.gov'['Jay.Nickerson@dep.nj.gov'];
'jdellafave@ironboundcc.org'['jdellafave@ironboundcc.org']; Gratz, Jeff[Gratz.Jeff@epa.gov];
'Jennifer.DiLorenzo@fema.dhs.gov'['Jennifer.DiLorenzo@fema.dhs.gov'];
'Jerry_willis@nps.gov'['Jerry_willis@nps.gov']; 'jmawhorter@fs.fed.us'['jmawhorter@fs.fed.us']; Matthews,
Joan[Matthews.Joan@epa.gov]; John Doyon (john.doyon@dep.nj.gov)[john.doyon@dep.nj.gov]; John
Moyle[Moyle@domain.invalid]; John[John.Moyle@dep.nj.gov];
'John.sacco@dep.nj.gov'['John.sacco@dep.nj.gov']; Joseph Fox
(foxj@ci.newark.nj.us)[foxj@ci.newark.nj.us]; 'jsantos@newarkcedc.org'['jsantos@newarkcedc.org']; Kate
Anderson[Anderson@domain.invalid]; Katherine[andersonka@ci.newark.nj.us];
'Keith.skilton@dot.gov'['Keith.skilton@dot.gov']; 'kgaddy@cleanwater.org'['kgaddy@cleanwater.org'];
'Kluesner.dave@epa.gov'['Kluesner.dave@epa.gov']; 'Kogan.joshua@epa.gov'['Kogan.joshua@epa.gov'];
'Krudner.maureen@epa.gov'['Krudner.maureen@epa.gov'];
'laumbach@eohsi.rutgers.edu'['laumbach@eohsi.rutgers.edu']; Laureen Boles[Director@njeja.org]; Laurie
Howard[lhoward.passaicriver@gmail.com]; Lenny Thomas
(ironbound.sncc.corrs.sec@gmail.com)[ironbound.sncc.corrs.sec@gmail.com];
'Lge2@cdc.gov'['Lge2@cdc.gov']; 'lindsaycampbell@fs.fed.us'['lindsaycampbell@fs.fed.us'];
'Lisa.a.baron@usace.army.mil'['Lisa.a.baron@usace.army.mil'];
'Lynn.fleming@dep.nj.gov'['Lynn.fleming@dep.nj.gov']; Marci DePena[newarkriverfront@gmail.com];
'Maribel@jerseyhistory.org'['Maribel@jerseyhistory.org']; Mark Walters[Walters@domain.invalid];
Mark[Mark.Walters@dep.nj.gov]; 'Martin.mchugh@nfwf.org'['Martin.mchugh@nfwf.org']; Matt
Cosby[Cosby@domain.invalid]; MatthewGNAN[Matthew.G.Cosby@usace.army.mil];
'Matthew.voisine@usace.army.mil'['Matthew.voisine@usace.army.mil'];
'mgreenberg@ironboundcc.org'['mgreenberg@ironboundcc.org']; Sivak,
Michael[Sivak.Michael@epa.gov]; 'Mitchell.schenine@epa.gov']; Mitchell.schenine@epa.gov'];
'mmolina@ironboundcc.org'['mmolina@ironboundcc.org']; Morris Warner[MorrisWarner
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Brighton[Brighton@domain.invalid]; NancyJNAN02[Nancy.J.Brighton@usace.army.mil];
'Nancy.j.brighton@usace.army.mil'['Nancy.j.brighton@usace.army.mil'];
'Naranjo.eugenia@epa.gov'['Naranjo.eugenia@epa.gov']; Newark Water and Sewer
(carrc@ci.newark.nj.us)[carrc@ci.newark.nj.us];
'newarkriverfront@gmail.com'['newarkriverfront@gmail.com'];
'Nicholas.kahn@fema.dhs.gov'['Nicholas.kahn@fema.dhs.gov']; Nicky Sheats[nsheats@tesc.edu]; Nicole
Scott-Harris[newarkorganizer@njeja.org]; 'Nielson.irene@epa.gov'['Nielson.irene@epa.gov'];
'nzak@ironboundcc.org'['nzak@ironboundcc.org'];
'Patrick.tuohy@fema.dhs.gov'['Patrick.tuohy@fema.dhs.gov'];
'paul.a.perillo@fema.dhs.gov'['paul.a.perillo@fema.dhs.gov'];
'Pendse.sabina@epa.gov'['Pendse.sabina@epa.gov']; Brandt, Peter[Brandt.Peter@epa.gov];
'Purdy.irene@epa.gov'['Purdy.irene@epa.gov'];
'Reyhan.mehran@noaa.gov'['Reyhan.mehran@noaa.gov'];
'Richard.shaw@nj.usda.gov'['Richard.shaw@nj.usda.gov'];
'Rini.sophia@epa.gov'['Rini.sophia@epa.gov']; Rob Thomas[Thomas@domain.invalid];
Robert[thomasr2@ci.newark.nj.us]; 'rob@harborestuary.org'['rob@harborestuary.org'];
'rocasio@lacasanwk.org'['rocasio@lacasanwk.org']; 'rreiser@usgs.gov'['rreiser@usgs.gov']; Russel J.
Funari (russell.funari@pseg.com)[russell.funari@pseg.com];
'Sara.b.margolis@hud.gov'['Sara.b.margolis@hud.gov']; 'Scott.dvorak@tpl.org'['Scott.dvorak@tpl.org'];
'sgreenwood@victoriafoundation.org'['sgreenwood@victoriafoundation.org'];
'srubin@greatswamp.org'['srubin@greatswamp.org']; Stan Stephansen[Stephansen@domain.invalid];
Stephansen, Stanley[Stephansen.Stanley@epa.gov]; Stephanie Bell Sparkill
Watershed[stephbellnow@gmail.com]; 'Stephansen.stanley@epa.gov'['Stephansen.stanley@epa.gov'];
Sue Levine[slevine@greatswamp.org]; Tara Casella[tcasella@parks.essexcountynj.org]; Tony Bianchini
<[tbianchini@lowerpassaiccpg.com]; 'vanabs@sebs.rutgers.edu'['vanabs@sebs.rutgers.edu'];
'Vaughn.stephanie@epa.gov'['Vaughn.stephanie@epa.gov'];
'Winfield.richard@epa.gov'['Winfield.richard@epa.gov']; 'Yeh.alice@epa.gov'['Yeh.alice@epa.gov']
From:
Sent:
          Fri 6/17/2016 7:35:13 PM
Subject: Bl-monthly Lower Passaic Urban Waters Federal Partnership Bulletin
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<MWarner@NewarkHA.org]; 'msuchodolski@eda.gov'['msuchodolski@eda.gov']; Nancy</p>

Dear Partners,

Here is the bi-monthly bulletin for the Lower Passaic including grants, events, and resources. Everything is organized by topic (Water Resources, Environmental Health, Sustainable Development, Conservation, Public Access and Education) and by due date. Note also the reminder that registration is open for the Urban Waters National Training Workshop!

Best,

Sarah

REGISTRATION IS OPEN for the Urban Waters National Training Workshop – July 26-28, 2016 – The 2016 Urban Waters National Training Workshop, July 26-28, 2016, is sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, on behalf of the Urban Waters Federal Partnership (UWFP). This year, registration for this workshop is free and open to all! To help us engage a diverse set of participants and foster vibrant dialogue, please share this event invitation with those in your network, particularly those working on natural resource conservation, environment, public health, community revitalization,

economic development, and all those sectors that contribute to our mission. **See the attached Workshop Flyer and** Click here for additional information and to register.

Grants, Events, and Resources by Topic and Deadline:

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Water Resources

<u>GRANTS</u>

NEW: EPA FY 2016 and FY 2017 Source Reduction Assistance Grant Program – \$2.2 million—due June 6, 2016—EPA is making funding available to support practical pollution prevention/source reduction tools or approaches to measurably improve the environmental footprints of businesses, municipal governments, and/or local communities. Proposed projects must carry out project activities using one or more of the following methods: surveys, studies, research, investigation, experimentation, education, training, and/or demonstrations. One grant focus area includes greenhouse gas emission mitigation and energy efficiency. Eligible entities are state and tribal governments. For more information regarding this funding announcement, click here.

NEW: Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (ARFI) - Water for Agriculture Challenge Area—due August 4th, 2016—This AFRI Challenge Area addresses critical water resources issues such as drought, excess soil moisture, flooding, quality and others in an agricultural context. Funding will be used to develop management practices, technologies, and tools for farmers, ranchers, forest owners and managers, public decision makers, public and private managers, and citizens to improve water resource quantity and quality. Project types supported within this Challenge area are multi-function Integrated Research, Education, and/or Extension Projects and Food and Agricultural Enhancement (FASE) Grants. Learn more here.

RESOURCES

USGS Online Mapper Provides a Decadal Look at Groundwater Quality - A first of its kind, national assessment of an unseen, valuable resource used by millions of people. A new <u>online</u> interactive mapping tool that provides summaries of decadal-scale changes in groundwater quality across the Nation is now available for use by the public, water-resource managers, and

policy makers. The mapper shows how concentrations of 24 contaminants, such as nutrients, pesticides, metals, and volatile organic compounds, are changing over decadal periods in 67 groundwater networks across the Nation.

Our Water, Our Future: State of River and Watershed Protection 2016 Trends Report—The 2016 Trends Report is the first national report of its kind. Included in this *report* is important information about the diversity of the river and watershed community in the United States. The report stresses the need for river and watershed protection efforts to reflect the interests and the diversity of the communities served. Additional findings in the report focus on current conditions of our rivers, threats, and opportunities.

Environmental Health

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GRANTS

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NEW: CDC Building Resilience against Climate Effects: Enhancing Community Resilience by Implementing Health Adaptations Program – \$4.5 million—due June 20, 2016—CDC is making funding available to implement the Climate and Health Adaptation and Monitoring Program (CHAMP), which involves developing an Implementation and Monitoring Strategy (IMS) for interventions stated in climate adaptation plans. The IMS should utilize evidence-based public health interventions and incorporate monitoring and evaluation strategies and activities to achieve measurable health impacts and reduce the health burden of climate change. Expected program outcomes include increased community-level engagement in climate and health adaptation, as well as increasing resilience of public health systems and health infrastructure. Eligible entities are state and local governments. For more information, click here.

ATSDR Community Health Projects Related to Contamination at Brownfield/Land Reuse Sites—\$150,000— Application due July 5, 2016 - The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) is funding these community health projects to ensure that public health is an integral part of the land reuse process. These projects will increase capacity to identify, address, and improve public health in redeveloping Brownfield/Land Reuse sites,

ensuring that particular attention is paid to identifying and addressing health issues prior to redevelopment and assessing changes in community health associated with reuse plans and redevelopment. Click here for more information on this funding announcement.

EVENTS

Advancing the Science of Community Engaged Research Conference Series—August 25-26, 2016— There is an urgent need to convene researchers and other stakeholders to advance the field of Community Engaged Research (CEnR). This year's conference theme is "Innovative and Effective Methods of Stakeholder Engagement in Translational Research," and will be held in Washington, D.C. The conference will provide a forum to rapidly disseminate CEnR evidence and gain practical knowledge to implement new and enhance existing community engagement programs. Conference Information.

2016 National Training Conference on the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) and Environmental Conditions in Communities—October 19-21, 2016—This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Toxics Release Inventory, a program that provides information on industrial releases and other waste management of toxic chemicals and what industrial facilities are doing to prevent pollution in communities. Join participants in Washington, DC for presentations, panels, discussions, and networking opportunities as they work together to shape the next 30 years of community right-to-know. More information can be found <a href="https://example.com/here/new/marks

NEW: American Public Health Association (APHA) Annual Meeting—October 29 - November 2, 2016—Denver, Colorado— This year's conference theme is "Creating the Healthiest Nation: Ensuring the Right to Health." Click here for more information.

RESOURCES

The TKF Foundation has prepared a set of research briefs to explain nature benefits and promote access to nearby urban nature--These briefs are written for a wide range of readership. They provide information about improving wellness, stress reduction, environmental equality, and nature for older adults and Civic Sacred in Cities. The briefs can be downloaded as printable .pdf files by clicking here. The research presented in these briefs describes the empirical evidence that can be useful to support public policy and programs. Additional information about the program and published research papers can be found here.

Sustainable Development

GRANTS

Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grants Program—\$30 million—due June 18—HUD is soliciting applications for the FY2016 Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grants program. The Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grants support the implementation of comprehensive neighborhood revitalization plans focused on three cores: housing, people, and neighborhood. Read the NOFA. More information is available on HUD's website.

EVENTS

NEW: Scaling U.S. Community Investing: Unleashing the Potential of Individual Investors Webinar – June 23, 2016, 11:00-12:15 p.m. ET - Join the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis for a new "Exploring Innovation in Community Development" webinar series. We will explore some of the key themes, gaps and opportunities outlined in a report co-authored by Michael Swack and Eric Hangen, Scaling U.S. Community Investing: The Investor-Product Interface. The third and final webinar in this series on June 23 will focus on individual investors. In the impact investing space, these funders are potential game changers, but reaching them involves solving unique challenges. Event Registration.

Call for Session Proposals Now Open – due June 30, 2016—for New Partners for Smart Growth Conference 2017 -- The Local Government Commission is conducting a formal Call for Session Proposals (CFSP) for the 2017 New Partners for Smart Growth Conference program. The deadline for proposals is June 30, 2016 and the Conference will take place February 2-4, 2017 in St. Louis, MO. Submit proposals here.

Federal Reserve Community Advisory Council Nominations – due July 11, 2016—The Federal Reserve Board announced that it is accepting applications from individuals who wish to be considered for membership on the Community Advisory Council (CAC). The CAC was formed in 2015. It advises the Board on issues affecting consumers and communities and complements two of the Board's other advisory councils—the Federal Advisory Council and the Community Depository Institutions Advisory Council—whose members represent depository institutions. Click here for additional information.

RESOURCES

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EPA's Newest Environmental Justice Strategy is Available for Public Review--public comment period will be from May 23, 2016 to July 7, 2016—The EJ 2020 Action Agenda strategy for environmental justice for 2016-2020 is available for public comment. Building on Plan EJ 2014, this strategy draws upon input from governmental partners and external stakeholders to address the real environmental challenges that are facing American communities today. To review and comment on the final draft of EJ 2020, please visit EPA's EJ 2020 website. There will be two webinars to go over the Action Agenda. They are scheduled for Thursday, June 2nd from 2 to 3:30 EST, and June 7th, from 3:00 to 4:30 EST.

EPA Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy in Low-Income Communities: Webcast Series and a Guide to EPA Programs -- This guide is designed to help state and local governments connect with EPA initiatives that can help them expand or develop their own energy efficiency and climate protection efforts in ways that benefit low-income communities. A series of three webcasts will be held to showcase best practice for effectively providing energy efficiency program to low-income communities. For information on the webcasts series, click here.

<u>USDA Urban Agriculture Toolkit Now Available</u>—Urban agriculture, including fruit and nut trees, is challenging the traditional view of farming. From rooftop gardens to growing crops on abandoned properties, urban agriculture provides many benefits to a community, including closer neighborhood ties, reduced crime, and healthy access for low-income residents. A new toolkit lays out the common operational elements that most urban farmers need to begin or expand. Click <u>here</u> to get the toolkit.

GSA tool to identify the location of all GSA owned and leased properties--This tool can be useful in identifying where federal agencies already have a presence in a community. This presence can be leveraged to help amplify the place based efforts. You can search for properties in one of three ways on this tool: using Senator or Representative name, using a state or congressional district, by state, city of Zip and lease expiration date. The results will be on a map with blue dots representing owned buildings and red dots representing leased locations. Click on individual locations for building properties and export the search results to an excel sheet. Click here to access the search page.

EPA Administrator McCarthy Announces \$55.2 Million to Assess and Clean Up Contaminated Sites, Promote Economic Redevelopment Nationwide--U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Gina McCarthy announced the selection of 218 new grant investments totaling \$55.2 million to 131 communities across the U.S. Recipients will receive approximately \$200,000 - \$820,000 in funding toward EPA cooperative agreements. The Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund and Cleanup (ARC) grants go to communities that are underserved and economically disadvantaged, including neighborhoods where environmental cleanup and new jobs are most needed. For the list of the FY 2016 applicants selected for funding click here.

Northeast-Midwest Institute Study Assesses Federal Response to Blight--A new report released by the Northeast-Midwest Institute finds that most targeted and stable federal support for addressing blight is decreasing, time-limited, or stagnant in the face of rising supply and labor costs. The report determines that although an array of federal resources exists for cities

that are willing and able to invest time and energy and to think creatively, when it comes to addressing blight, the largest, most stable, and most-targeted federal support for addressing blight is decreasing, time-limited, or stagnant in the face of rising supply and labor costs. A link to the full report is available here.

Conservation

GRANTS

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2017 National Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Cost-Share Grant Program—due June 17, 2016—The U.S. Forest service has announced the 2017 U.S. Forest Service National Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Cost-Share Grant Program Request for Pre-Proposals (RFP). The Request for Proposals addresses the following priority issues: Developing a National Urban Forestry Funding Assessment and Methodology and Understand Urban Forest Ecosystem/Ecological Services. More information can be found at the National Urban and Community Forest Advisory Council website.

FWS National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program – \$17 million – due June 29, 2016 – The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) announced funding to acquire, restore, and enhance wetlands in coastal states through competitive matching grants to state agencies. Ranking criteria for proposals include describing how the proposed project addresses climate change concerns, how it will be affected by climate change impacts, and references to any relevant plans and models. For more information, visit the <u>funding opportunity description</u>.

Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program – due June 30, 2016 - Apply by June 30, 2016 to be considered for technical assistance in 2017 for your community-led conservation and outdoor recreation projects. Project ideas can include a bike path, a water trail, or a park. See the program website for the application and additional information.

NEW: National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) Grant Opportunity—due June 30, 2016—Grants are available to conservation districts for urban agriculture conservation technical assistance. They recently partnered with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to award \$50,000 grants for up to 20 districts. Grant funds are designed for urban agriculture conservation technical assistance activities in districts with developed or

predominantly developing land use along with a special emphasis on underserved communities and food deserts. The grant RFP was discussed in a May 19 webinar, which is posted here: www.nacdnet.org/policy/urban/webinars. Please contact Debra Bogar deb-bogar@nacdnet.org for a copy of the RFP.

NEW: Graduate Research Challenge on Wetlands—This challenge for graduate level students is an opportunity to use data from the National Wetland Condition Assessment (NWCA) (http://go.usa.gov/cuu45) to conduct scientific research and analysis. The Campus Research Challenge encourages participants to use the NWCA dataset on sources of stress to wetlands, and explore effective ways to reduce such stress to protect, sustain, and restore the ecological health of the Nation's wetlands. EPA will award up to \$30,000, including a Grand Prize of \$5,000 and additional merit awards. Sign up by September 30, 2016. Projects due by January 13, 2017. (http://go.usa.gov/cuzHD)

Public Access and Education

GRANTS

National Park Service FY 2017 Challenge Cost Share Grants—due July 1, 2016—\$25,000 grants are available for a range of project ideas that serve urban communities, engage youth with National Parks, and connect people to the outdoors. Only National Park Service (NPS) staff can submit applications, however, grant funding will be provided directly to a partnering organization for each selected project. Educational institutions or not-for-profit organizations are eligible to partner with NPS for work performed in collaboration with NPS-administered parks, including National Parks, National Trails, and Wild and Scenic Rivers. Visit the National Park Service Site for more information.

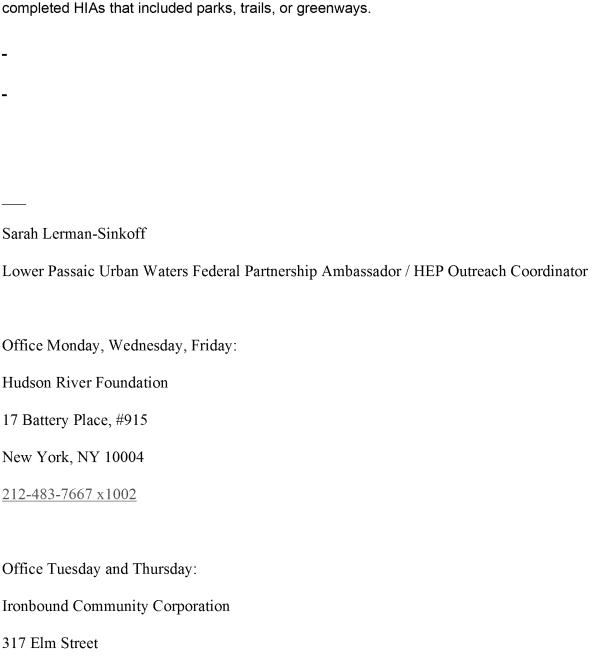
NEW: Presidential Environmental Youth Award (PEYA) program application is due March 1, 2017--Applications now being accepted. The PEYA program promotes awareness of our nation's natural resources and encourages positive community involvement, through recognizing outstanding environmental projects by K-12 youth. The award celebrates student leadership in protecting the environment and building a livable, sustainable global community. For more information please click here.

EVENTS

NEW: National Webcast --Social Media Made Simple— July 7, 2016, 1:00-2:00 p.m., EST-Social media experts Paul Johnson, Texas Urban Forestry Coordinator from the Texas A&M Forest Service and Coe Roberts, Electronic Communications Specialist, from the Arbor Day Foundation will present the "Social Media Made Simple" webcast. Webinar Registration.

RESOURCES

The Parks, Trails, and Health Workbook: A Tool for Planners, Parks and Recreational Professionals, and Health Practitioners--This guide is for incorporating public health considerations in the development and improvement of a park or trail. This tool can help start collaborative discussions about the health benefits of parks and trails and prepare for a health impact assessment (HIA). Click here to access the workbook. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the National Park Service (NPS) have created this tool to assist communities. The tool includes information to help users find health data and learn about completed HIAs that included parks, trails, or greenways.



Newark, NJ 07015

973-817-7013 x217